

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appln. No: To Be Assigned
Applicant: Tetsuhiko KANEAKI
Filed: April 13, 2004
Title: GIFT CERTIFICATE, GIFT CERTIFICATE ISSUING SYSTEM, GIFT
CERTIFICATE USING SYSTEM
TC/A.U.: To Be Assigned
Examiner: To Be Assigned
Docket No.: MAT-8535US

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 and to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application is requested to consider and make of record the references listed on the PTO 1449 (RP) submitted herewith. A copy of each of the listed references is also enclosed.

Although the information submitted herewith may be "material" to the Examiner's consideration of the subject application, this submission is not intended to constitute an admission that such information is "prior art" as to the claimed invention.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made.

The following Japanese references are not in the English language:

- 1) 2001-229276
- 2) 2002-109404
- 3) 2002-157423
- 4) 2001-167205
- 5) 06-505582

References 1) to 3) include an English language abstract.

References 4) and 5) have a counterpart English language patent or application attached. Further, a "concise explanation" under 37CFR § 1.98(a)(3) for Reference 4) is set forth in the background portion of the specification on page 1, lines 17-18.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with the above-referenced application.

Respectfully submitted,


Lawrence E. Ashery, Reg. No. 34,515
Attorney for Applicant

LEA/dmw/fp
Enclosures: PTO Form 1449
Copies of (7) References
Transmittal Form

Dated: April 13, 2004

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Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>	Complete if Known	
	Application Number	MAT-8535US
	Filing Date	April 13, 2004
	First Named Inventor	Tetsuhiko KANEAKI
	Art Unit	To Be Assigned
	Examiner Name	To Be Assigned
	Attorney Docket No.	MAT-8535US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date (MM-DD-YYYY)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (If known)				
		JP 2001-229276 A (with English Abstract)	08/24/2001	SANYO ELECTRIC CO LTD	Entire Document	<input type="checkbox"/>
		JP 2002-109404 A (with English Abstract)	04/12/2002	SHARP CORP	Entire Document	<input type="checkbox"/>
		JP 2002-157423 A (with English Abstract)	05/31/2002	INTERNATL SCIENT:KK	Entire Document	<input type="checkbox"/>
		JP 2001-167205 A (with counterpart WO 01/31526)	06/22/2001		Entire Document	<input type="checkbox"/>
		JP 06-505582 A (with counterpart US 5,500,514)	06/23/1994		Entire document.	<input type="checkbox"/>
		WO 01/31526 A1 (with counterpart JP 2001-167205)	05/03/2001	ITICKET CO., LTD	Entire document.	<input type="checkbox"/>

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).

²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.

³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard St.3).

⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible.

⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

The collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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